

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 3024 without my signature.

This bill would authorize Solano County to establish centralized vote centers in lieu of precinct polling places as a one-year pilot project during the 2009 local elections.

While the vote center system may offer some advantages over the current precinct-based voting system, the proposed pilot project would reduce the number of voting locations by 80 percent, and thereby significantly increase the distance that voters would have to travel in order to vote. This burden would fall disproportionately on those who are less mobile, frequently the poor, disabled, and elderly. I cannot, in good conscience, support a measure that could potentially make it more difficult for the most vulnerable members of society to exercise their right to vote.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger